

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-20 and 26-29 are pending in the present application. Claims 6, 9 and 21-25 have been canceled by the present amendment. Claims 1-4, 6-13, 15, 16 and 18-28 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Knox '744. Claims 5, 14, 17 and 29 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knox '744.

Referring to the rejection of claims 1-4, 6-13, 15, 16 and 18-28 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Knox '744; and the rejection of claims 5, 14, 17 and 29 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knox '744, the reference to Knox '744 is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the specific features required by the claimed invention. More specifically, claim 1 relates to a method for reducing the effect of bleed-through on a captured image that comprises illuminating a physical medium with light having a first illumination quality; recording a first image of the physical medium, wherein the first image of the physical medium is recorded using light reflected from the physical medium; illuminating the physical medium with light having a second illumination quality; recording a second image of the physical medium, wherein the second image of the physical medium is recorded using light transmitted through the physical medium; and combining the first image and the second image to form a captured image, such that a difference between the first and second images represent a bleed-through of at least one of an image, text and a mark on the first side of the medium to a second side of the medium which is subtracted to reduce the bleed-through.

Therefore, as described in, for example, page 11 of the present specification, in a method of the present invention a first image 422 is captured using reflected light and a second image 423a is acquired using transmitted light. By making use of the fact that the density of bleed-through image 423 is different from the density of bleed-through image 423a, various algorithms could be used to reduce or remove the desired bleed-through from the final captured image.

The reference to Knox '744 is not believed to show or suggest the specific method of claim 1. That is, the reference to Knox '744 illustrates a lower scanning element 34 and an identical upper scanning element 32. Therefore, in Knox '744, an image on an upper face of the document that passes through scanning station 30 is illuminated and scanned by upper scanning element 32, while an image on a lower face of the document is illuminated and scanned by the lower scanning element 34. This provides for the images as illustrated in, for example, Figs. 5A-5E of Knox '744. This is different from the claimed invention

which requires that a first image of the physical medium be recorded using light reflected from the physical medium, and that a second image of the physical medium be recorded using light transmitted through the physical medium. This specific combination provides for the bleed-through images 423 and 423a of different densities as shown in Fig. 4 of the present application and enables the combining step of claim 1 to reduce bleed-through.

Accordingly, the reference to Knox '744 is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the specific features required by claim 1.

Claims 2-5 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1 and set forth further unique features of the present invention which are also not believed to be shown or suggested in the applied reference.

Claim 7 relates to a digital file tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium. Claim 7 like claim 1 requires that a first image of the physical medium be recorded using light reflected from the physical medium, and that a second image of the physical medium be recorded using light transmitted through the physical medium. For the reasons noted above with respect to claim 1, the reference to Knox '744 is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the specific features required by claim 7.

Claim 8 depends from claim 7 and sets forth an additional unique feature of the invention which is also not believed to be shown or suggested in the applied reference.

Claim 10 relates to an image-capturing system that comprises at least one illumination source. The claimed illumination source is capable of illuminating a physical medium such that light is reflected from the physical medium and transmitted through the physical medium. Claim 10 further requires that the system comprise at least one detector, with the detector being enabled to generate signals in response to the light reflected from the physical medium and the light transmitted through the physical medium. Claim 10 further requires an information handling system that includes at least one processor; a memory operably associated with the processor; and a program of instructions capable of being stored in the memory. For the reasons noted above with respect to claims 1 and 9, the reference to Knox '744 is not believed to show or suggest the combination of an illumination source that illuminates a physical medium, such that light is reflected from the medium and transmitted through the medium; and a detector that is able to generate signals in response to the light reflected from the medium and the light transmitted through the medium. As discussed above, the reference to Knox '744 shows illumination sources on opposing sides of a document which send light that is reflected from the opposing sides of the document.

Accordingly, the reference to Knox '744 is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the features of claim 10.

Claims 11-20 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 10 and set forth further unique features of the present invention which are also not believed to be shown or suggested in the applied reference.

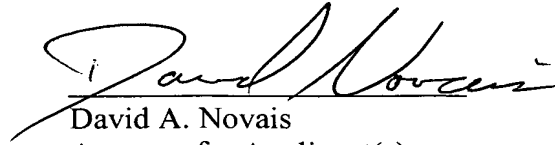
Claim 26 relates to a method for correcting bleed-through in a captured image that comprises obtaining information indicative of a first image density of an image formed on a physical medium; obtaining information indicative of a second image density of the image formed on the physical medium; comparing the information indicative of the first image density with the information indicative of the second image density to determine what portions of the information are due to bleed-through; and altering the portions of the information that are due to bleed through to form a corrected image. Therefore, in claim 26, information indicative of a first image density of an image formed on a medium is obtained and information indicative of a second image density of the noted image is also obtained. These image densities are compared to provide for the information required for the correction of the image. The reference to Knox '744 is not believed to show or suggest the claimed comparison of information indicative of a first image density and a second image density of an image to utilize the information with respect to correcting bleed-through. In Knox '744, opposing sides of a document are scanned, and thereafter, low contrast information is removed from areas of a first image corresponding to a show-through of a second image. This is different from the method of claim 26 wherein a first image density of an image is obtained and a second image density of the same image is also obtained, wherein the image densities of the noted image are compared to provide for the correction of the bleed-through.

Accordingly, the reference to Knox '744 is not believed to anticipate or make obvious the specific features required by claim 26.

Claims 27-29 depend from claim 26 and set forth further unique features of the present invention which are also not believed to be shown or suggested in the applied references.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is submitted that the inventions defined by each of claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-20 and 26-29 are patentable, and a favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David A. Novais", is written over a horizontal line.

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